

The Hawaiian Star

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GEORGE F. HENSHALL.....MANAGER

WEDNESDAYAPRIL 8, 1908

THE SENSITIVE JAPANESE.

The Pinkham-Japanese discussion has brought forward the strange proposition that the Territorial executive ought to consult the Japanese here, or at least to consider their wishes, in the appointment of an American official. It is suggested by the Advertiser,—possibly merely as a drowning man might catch at a straw,—that the "restive and sensitive Japanese population desire that Mr. Pinkham be not reappointed." It seems to be generally conceded that Pinkham has written things not exactly discreet or diplomatic. But in response to his challenge to produce such matter, nothing very bad has yet appeared. How about the other side? Within recent times, there have come from the Japanese here,—first, a consular request that a transcript be furnished of a criminal trial held in the islands, presumably that it might be forwarded to the Japanese ambassador in Washington, so that he might review it and decide whether an American court had done its duty properly on American soil; second, a proposal when plague broke out near Honolulu that the infected district, because containing a majority of Japanese, be fenced in and turned over to Japanese control, so that Japanese physicians might take charge of the matter, and, third, an advertisement in Japanese papers, under consular headings, instructing Japanese to violate a law of the land by registering births only at the consulate.

Of course it is conceded that in all this there is no deliberate intention on the part of the Japanese to be impertinent, or to oppose local laws. But the fact is that the propositions, coming from aliens, are very impertinent. The point worth considering is that the Americans make no complaint. It is recognized that difficulties of language, etc., make it easily possible for the best intentioned Japanese to go wrong in such matters. But let the President of the Board of Health make such a simple announcement as that Japanese here must follow American law, and not Japanese,—which has been stated from local benches a dozen times,—and what the Advertiser calls the "restive and sensitive Japanese population" is supposed to be insulted. The Japanese need not be more sensitive than the Americans.

DESTROYING THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

William Randolph Hearst is coming out openly again as a candidate for President. The Independence League has probably attracted more attention than even he expected, and as important a paper as the Washington Post predicts that it will end in the dissolution of the Democratic party altogether. Hearst in his own papers quotes approvingly newspaper articles in which he is referred to as a desirable man for the White House. All the signs indicate that, having failed to capture the Democratic party four years ago, he is proceeding rapidly along a programme, forecasted at that time, to destroy it. There are many signs that in the coming campaign he will so divide it as to end its history as a great American party,—and in the next he will probably try to bob up as the head of its successor,—the National party, Independence League, or whatever he may call it. It is a long, shrewd and ambitious programme, fought with great skill and tremendous weapons, and its motive is that history shall contain the name of President William Randolph Hearst.

A sign of the changed times is found in notices, issued by the Superintendent of Public Works designating automobile hack stands, "The world do move," and Honolulu is on its speeding rim.

If Governor Frear reappoints Pinkham he must expect to be told he is after a drug contract. No man can disagree with our morning Oracle unless his conclusions are dictated by some dishonorable consideration or other.

The remarkable heat and unanimity of public sentiment in Honolulu today in support of President Pinkham will probably suggest to the morning paper that the entire community wants to go into the drug business and get contracts from the Board of Health. The fact that the contracts are, and have been, awarded to the lowest bidder will probably be overlooked, as it was this morning.

There is no telling what might happen if the Star came out against an official and the attack got any publicity.—Advertiser.

When the Star has criticized or opposed public officials it has usually been sustained by public opinion. This is because it has the reputation of criticizing only fairly and it wholly lacks the Advertiser's unenviable repute for malicious personal journalism, with which Honolulu is afflicted as few other communities under the sun.

Having insinuated yesterday morning that a Star man had written some "anti-American articles" in the Hawaii Shinpo, and it having been shown, not only that he was not the actual author of any article in the Shinpo at all, but that when the articles in question were published he was away and did not even see them, the Advertiser this morning prints the following nice correction of its utterly unwarranted error:

It appears from the Star that Mr. Shiozawa was mistaken in his frequent remarks about the benefit his paper was deriving from the employment of Mr. Henshall as "English editor."

Perhaps this is to be expected from a journal which, after publishing a yellow story that broke up the Kona Orphanage and made thirty children homeless, confined its editorial comment to a sacrilegious joke at the expense of the lady in charge.

A recent decision of the New York Supreme Court is, apparently, opposite to the Hawaiian decision in the Ashford case against the Rapid Transit Co. Martin Morton had obtained a judgment of \$94.22 against the Union Railway Company for a breach of contract in failing to carry him to his destination. Plaintiff and three other passengers refused to "take the car ahead," and, remaining in the original car, stayed there for an hour or two after the car had been sidetracked. In delivering the opinion of the Supreme Court reversing the verdict, Justice MacLean said: "This particular car not having been chartered by or to the plaintiff, the defendant under its statutory powers could transport the plaintiff upon any other of its suitable vehicles destined to the place where he would go. No proof of any damage to



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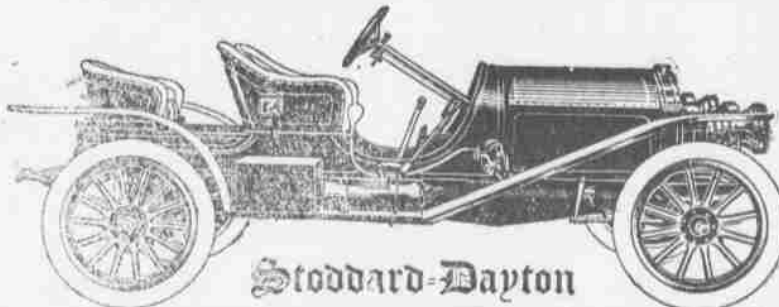
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Tales Worth Telling

A CUSTOM HOUSE TALE.

Germany is jealous of the foreign candy makers and exacts a rigorous toll upon anything in the shape of confectionery that comes across its borders. Ignorant of this, one of Uncle Sam's sons in the course of the summer just past disembarked from a liner at a German port carrying in his hand a five-pound box of candy bearing a New York trade mark. At sight of the box the Teutonic customs official exhibited marked activity and prepared to seize upon it.

"Not for mine," said the American. "I won't give up a sou. I'd rather eat the stuff here and now." He opened the box and commenced to dispose of its contents without delay. Everybody in sight was offered a handful. officer, who said blandly that he had Nobody declined except the customs not a sweet tooth. The traveler himself ate many pieces. It was not long before the last bit had been eaten.

As soon as the box was empty the official seized the traveler by the arm. "The gentleman," he announced, "will accompany me to the bureau, where we'll make out his bill for duty. Come, it is at the other end of the dock."

"Never," said the American. "You have no right to charge me duty. I didn't bring it in. I'll see my Consul right away and he'll send a big fleet and bombard this blooming town."

"Softly," said the officer. "You'll pay duty, all right. There are 15 witnesses to prove that that candy of yours was consumed on German soil."

The duty was paid and the Consul has not as yet been consulted.

AN UNDESIRABLE ARTICLE.

When Mr. B. went to call upon some friends the other afternoon he was on his way out of town and so had his traveling bag with him. This he placed in a corner, and when he rose to leave, he overlooked it. His hostess happened to notice it before he had reached the door and called to her little daughter:

"The plaintiff is offered." Mr. Ashford, here, was carried to the car barn in a trailer, having refused to leave it for "the car ahead" unless he was assured of a seat therein.

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